Fricker & Mellen & Associates 1 Timothy J. Fricker, Esq. 183309 James G. Mellen, Esq. 122035 Karen L. Creech, Esq. 168023 **Tribune Tower** 3 409 13th Street, 17th Floor Oakland, CA 94612 4 Tel: (510) 663-8484 5 Fax: (510) 663-0639 Attorneys for Plaintiff 6 Christine Clecak 7 8 9 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 10 NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 11 12 Case No.: CHRISTINE CLECAK, 13 Plaintiff, 14 **COMPLAINT** v. 15 APPLE COMPUTER, INC.'S SHORT AND LONG TERM DISABILITY PLAN, 16 17 Defendant. 18 19 I. JURISDICTION 20 1. This is a suit to enforce plaintiff's rights to declaratory, injunctive and monetary relief 21 brought pursuant to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), 29 USC 1001, et seq. 22 23 II. PARTIES 24 Plaintiff CHRISTINE CLECAK was at all times hereto a participant in APPLE COMPUTER, INC.'s SHORT AND LONG TERM DISABILITY PLAN (hereinafter referred to 26 as PLAN), pursuant to ERISA. 27 28 **Clecak Complaint** Page 1

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"LINA") is the Administrator of the PLAN.

4 USC 1002.

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III. FACTS

3. LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF NORTH AMERICA (hereinafter referred to as

The PLAN is an employee welfare benefit plan pursuant to ERISA section 502, 29

- 5. Plaintiff was a participant in good standing in the PLAN on July 21, 2007.
- 6. Plaintiff became disabled on or about August 8, 2005, and continued to be disabled through to July 21, 2007. Her disability has, at all times since, met the definition of disability in the PLAN.
- 7. On July 18, 2007, the PLAN, through the insurer, informed plaintiff that as of July 21, 2007, it would terminate her disability benefits under the PLAN.
- 8. Plaintiff timely appealed the termination of benefits. On March 11, 2008, the PLAN, through the insurer, informed plaintiff that her appeal was denied.
- 9. Plaintiff has performed all acts necessary to maintain her status as a participant in the PLAN. She timely filed all applications for benefits and appeals of the termination of benefits. She provided all the necessary information to the PLAN and its representatives. Plaintiff exhausted all available administrative remedies under the PLAN.

IV. CLAIM FOR RELIEF

- 10. Plaintiff hereby realleges and incorporates by reference every allegation of paragraphs1 though 9 above, inclusive.
- 11. ERISA Section 502(a)(1)(B), 29 USC 1132(a)(1)(B), provides a private right of action for ERISA plan participants to recover benefits due and to clarify rights to future benefits under the terms of the PLAN.
- 12. As a direct and proximate consequence of defendant's failure and refusal to pay benefits under the PLAN, plaintiff has been deprived of amounts to be determined and interest thereon.

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V. PRAYER FOR RELIEF 1 WHEREFORE, plaintiff prays for: 2 A judgment and order that defendant pay the benefits due plaintiff now and in the 3 future and interest thereon. 4 An order that defendant pay plaintiff her attorney fees and other costs. 5 2. Such order and further relief as the Court may deem just and proper. 3. 6 7 8 Date: April 2, 2008. 9 10 Fricker & Mellen & Associates 11 12 By: ____ Karen L. Creech, Esq. 13 Attorneys for Plaintiff Christine Clecak 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 **Clecak Complaint** Page 3

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